

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CASABL 00354 030938Z

20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01

AGR-20 INT-08 /169 W

----- 018913

R 021600Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2746

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL TANGIER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CASABLANCA 354

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, MO

SUBJECT: BEN SEDDIK'S MAY DAY SPEECH

1. UNION MAROCAINE DU TRAVAIL AND LESSER MOROCCAN WORKER ORGANIZATIONS CELEBRATED MAY DAY WITH TRADITIONAL PARADES AND SPEECHES CHARACTERIZED BY SOMEWHAT LESS FANFARE THAN IN RECENT YEARS.

2. SPEECH OF UMT SEC GEN MAHJOUR BEN SEDDIK WAS NOTABLE FOR ITS FIERY AND SHARPLY CRITICAL TONE. AFTER PAYING USUAL LIP SERVICE TO "MOROCCAN" SAHARA, THE PLO, AND REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HE TURNED TO DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

3. BEN SEDDIK SAID MOROCCAN WORKING CLASS FACES TWO ESSENTIAL PROBLEMS: THE COST OF LIVING IS RISING WHILE PURCHASING POWER IS DECLINING, AND RICH ARE GETTING RICHER WHILE POOR ARE GETTING POORER. "SUCH A SITUATION," HE SAID, "IS IMPOSSIBLE AND WE REJECT IT. THAT IS WHY THE WORKERS HAVE JOINED THE BATTLE; THEIR WEAPON IS THE STRIKE." BEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CASABL 00354 030938Z

SEDDIK WENT ON TO CONGRATULATE WORKERS ON SERIES OF STRIKES

IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES (TEXTILE, MINING, BANKS, ETC.) WHICH HAVE GENERALLY LED TO SUBSTANTIAL WAGE INCREASES FOLLOWING CIVIL SERVICE RAISES ANNOUNCED BY KING DECEMBER 8.

4. IN APPARENT EFFORT TO RECAPTURE A BIT OF THUNDER STOLEN BY KING FROM OPPOSITION, BEN SEDDIK ATTACKED MOROCCANIZATION AND RECUPERATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND. MOROCCANIZATION, HE SAID, HAS DONE NOTHING "BUT CREATE AN ADDITIONAL RESOURCE FOR THE RICH," WHILE PEASANTRY HAS NOT BENEFITTED FROM LAND FORMERLY OWNED BY FOREIGNERS BECAUSE THERE HAS BEEN NO AGRARIAN REFORM.

5. BEN SEDDIK LISTED FOLLOWING AS BASIC UMT DEMANDS:  
1) RAISING OF MINIMUM INDUSTRIAL WAGE TO 500 DIRHAMS PER MONTH;  
2) LINKAGE OF SALARIES TO COST OF LIVING; 3) EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO CHECK INFLATION AND 4) GENERAL GRANTING OF HOUSING ALLOWANCES TO WORKERS. BEN SEDDIK CLOSED BY CALLING FOR SOCIALISM, TRUE DEMOCRACY AND A GOVERNMENT THAT THE WORKERS COULD SUPPORT.

6. COMMENT: BEN SEDDIK'S SPEECH FOCUSES SHARPLY ON WHAT WE BELIEVE IS MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR WORKING CLASS - RISING COST OF LIVING. CONTINUING RANK AND FILE DISCONTENT OVER INFLATION WILL PROBABLY FORCE UMT TO KEAP HEAT ON - TO WHATEVER DEGREE GOM WILL PERMIT.  
BRUBECK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECRETARY GENERAL, COST OF LIVING, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, MAY DAY, LABOR UNIONS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974CASABL00354  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740106-0722  
**From:** CASABLANCA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740580/aaaacufq.tel  
**Line Count:** 87  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BEN SEDDIK'S MAY DAY SPEECH  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PINT, MO, UMT-UNION MAROCAINE DU TRAVAIL, (BEN SEDDIK, MAHJOUB)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005